

Consumer Information

Hawaii Deposit Beverage Container Program

The Deposit Beverage Container (DBC) Program encourages consumer recycling by placing a deposit value on beverage containers. The deposit gives consumers an incentive to recycle containers that may otherwise be thrown away. Consumers may receive a deposit refund for recycling empty deposit beverage containers at a Certified Redemption Center.



BEVERAGE CHARGES

5¢ Deposit

This fee is refunded to customers when they take their empty deposit beverage containers to a Certified Redemption Center for recycling.

1¢ Container Fee

This is a non-refundable fee that pays redemption centers to process and recycle deposit beverage containers.

General Excise Tax

Retailers may exempt the container fee and the deposit from Hawaii's GET tax.

Food Stamps (EBT Card)

Food Stamps (EBT Cards) cover the cost of the container fee and deposit. Customers who purchase beverages in deposit containers will not have to pay separately for the container fee or deposit.

Incorrectly Charged

Retain your store receipts in case you need to question a beverage charge. If you think you paid a deposit for a non-deposit beverage, check the container for the HI 5¢ label.

If the container has no deposit label, and you were charged a deposit, return to the store with your receipt and ask for assistance from the customer service personnel.

ELIGIBLE BEVERAGES & CONTAINERS

Beverage Type

Non-alcoholic drinks

(soda, water, juice, tea, coffee)

Some alcoholic drinks

(beer, malt beverages, mixed wines or spirits)

Note: milk, wine, spirits, and any deposit containers without a HI5¢ label are not covered.

Container Size

68 fluid ounces or less

Container Material Type

Aluminum, Bi-metal, Glass, or Plastic

Note: Only plastic types #1 and #2 are eligible for redemption. Look for a triangle and number symbol on the bottom of the container.



Container Deposit Label

Look for the following redemption information on the side or top of the beverage container.

HI 5¢ or

Hawaii 5¢ or

CT, DE, HI, IA, ME, NY, OR, MA, 5¢



GET YOUR DEPOSIT BACK

Certified redemption centers will refund deposits to customers who recycle their empty deposit beverage containers.

To locate a redemption center near you, visit www.hi5deposit.com or call (808) 586-4226.

STEPS: CONTAINER REDEMPTION

- 1. Check** for the HI 5¢ label. Containers must have the HI 5¢ label visible upon redemption.

Note: Labels that have fallen off bottles after getting wet may be saved and placed inside the bottles with the label visible for inspection by redemption center workers.

- 2. Empty** deposit containers of liquid or foreign material such as lemon wedges, napkins, and food wrappers.
- 3. Sort** deposit containers by material type.

RECYCLE NON-DEPOSIT ITEMS

Non-deposit beverage containers and other recyclables may be dropped into recycling drop-off bins located in communities around the state. Call your local county recycling office to find a drop-off location near you:

Oahu
(808) 768-3200

Maui
(808) 270-7874

Big Island
(808) 961-8549

Kauai
(808) 241- 5120

WEIGHT VS. COUNT

It's faster to weigh. It's more exact to count.

Operators are required to count loads up to 200 containers upon customer request.

Operators are not required to count loads larger than 200. If your load is larger than 200, the operator may choose to weigh it.

Refunds given based on weight are calculated using a "segregated rate." This is an average number of containers per pound by material type: plastic, glass or metal. Small plastic containers (17 ounces or less) can be separated and weighed at a higher conversion rate. Because the rates are based on an average, refunds may be more or less than 5¢ per container. The Department of Health conducts regular testing to check the accuracy of the rates.

Reverse vending machines are available at many sites for refunds based on count.

REFUND AMOUNT INCORRECT?

Before you accept your refund, discuss any concerns you may have about the amount being offered. If you find an error with your refund you may request to retrieve your containers and recycle them at a different certified redemption center.

